

Knutsford Town Council

Town Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green

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Minutes

of the

Town Council meeting held 9th September 2019

In the Lower Council Chamber of the Town Council Offices

19/056 Present

Cllrs Malloy, Gardiner, Abel, Beswick, Coan, Dalzell, Fletcher, Forbes, Gray, Hamilton Coan, McCulloch and Power.

In attendance: A Keppel-Green (*Town Clerk*)

19/057 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Houghton (business), Nicholson (health) and Robertson (personal business).

19/058 To receive declarations of members' interests

Cllr Gardiner declared a personal interest in 19/065 having expressed his opinion on the matter on a number of occasions.

19/059 Public Participation

A resident highlighted the Manchester Airport Consultation on air space stating he was undertaking research into the matter.

A resident expressed their concern regarding the number of accidents near the Cottons Hotel on Manchester Road, suggesting the speed be lowered to 40mph and vehicle activated signs installed to warn of the concealed entrances.

A representative of the South Knutsford Residents Group spoke in support of releasing additional funds for the Chelford Road obelisk project and offering volunteer support for clearing the site. He further highlighted the consultation on the Site Allocations and Development Policies Document, asking if the council would be submitting comments.

The general manager of the Cottons Hotel expressed concern at the number of accidents outside his hotel requesting action be taken to increase road safety.

19/060 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held 24th June

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes.

19/061 To consider road safety on Manchester Road

It was **RESOLVED** that a letter be sent to Esther McVey MP expressing concern that the police area command override the recommendations of Cheshire East Council with respect improving highway safety at this area.

19/062 To consider the continued support of the Citizens Advice service in Knutsford

It was **RESOLVED** to thank Citizens Advice for their work in Knutsford.

It was **RESOLVED** to continue funding the service for a further four-year period from April 2020.

19/063 To note the minutes of committees which have been published since the previous ordinary meeting

The minutes were noted.

19/064 To receive reports from and raise questions to Cheshire East Councillors

Cllr Gardiner reported that the new administration was settling in well and that he did not detect any significant shift in the council yet. Cllr Abel added that he aims to make the council work as a team and avoid party politics.

Cllr Coan raised concern that the household waste recycling centre was not fit for purpose, difficult to use and not accessible, stating it should be expanded to provide better services. Cllr Gray requested that Cheshire East ensure the street lights on King Edward Road be repaired. Cllr Malloy raised concern that the badminton club had been forced to leave the leisure centre due to changes in opening hours.

The meeting was adjourned for a five-minute recess.

19/065 To receive reports from members

Cllr Forbes reported attending two meetings of the Longridge and Shaw Heath Connected Communities group, stating it has been reinvigorated and was looking to identify specific deliverables. Cllr Dalzell reported attending a meeting of the Reuse Project.

Cllr Malloy reported that he sought to meet with the Mayor of Montmorency during this visit to France but as she was not available instead met with the President of CFAM which leads the English and French exchange programme. Cllr Malloy further reported that he had met with all school heads and was making positive progress on establishing a youth council.

19/066 To receive an update in respect of the transfer of the council offices

The Town Clerk reported that he was still awaiting the assets department of Cheshire East Council to instruct the legal department to progress the transfer.

19/067 To receive an update from the Town Centre Masterplan working group

Cllr Gray reported that a meeting had been held with Cllr Nick Manion, regeneration portfolio holder at Cheshire East Council and that the presentation video was being updated. It was reported that the working group was working on plans for a public consultation in the new year.

19/068 To receive an update on the development of a 2019-2031 Strategic Plan

Cllr McCulloch reported that the working group was developing a programme of community workshops to inform the plan and was in the process of agreeing dates and the detail of the workshop content.

19/069 To appoint a representative and deputy to the Knutsford Town Centre Cheshire East Connected Communities group

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Hamilton Coan as representative and Cllr Dalzell as deputy.

19/070 To consider the appointment of coordinators for the Community Emergency Plan

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllrs McCulloch, Hamilton Coan, Gardiner (lead) and Abel as coordinators and that they and the Town Clerk work to update the document.

It was **RESOLVED** to write to Group Captain Derek Empson MBE to thank him for his work on the plan.

19/071 To consider a recommendation from the Environment Committee with respect the works to the Chelford Road obelisk

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the use of the Environment Committee's budget to cover any shortfall in funding following the outcome of the final grant application.

19/072 To consider matters related to the Cheshire East Council disposal of public open space at Longridge

Cllr Malloy reported that a meeting had been arranged with Cllr Craig Browne, Deputy Leader of Cheshire East Council, to seek to encourage the council to change its stance with respect the discharge of the covenant.

19/073 To note payments

Payments were noted.

19/074 To receive a report of Mayoral Duties

The Mayor reported on attendance at events as detailed below.

19/075 Member questions to the Town Clerk

The Town Clerk responded to questions stating that work was ongoing to remove the bins from 60 King Street and that the market traders who have installed CCTV would be reminded of their obligations under the Data Protection Act.

19/076 Public Participation

A resident reflected on their attendance with Cllr Gardiner at the RTPi interview on the Neighbourhood Plan as part of the North West Planning Excellence Awards.

19/077 To consider a recommendation from the Assets and Operations Committee that it be authorised to pursue a renegotiation of the public toilets lease to DANFO to allow the potential conversion and letting of the empty space within the toilet buildings

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press on the grounds of the commercially

sensitive nature of discussions.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Assets and Operations committee explore all options with respect the lease and operation of the public toilets.

It was **RESOLVED** to readmit the public and press.

19/078 To note date of next meeting

The date was noted.

MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS

04/06/2019 TO 08/09/2019

| Date | Event | Attended By |
|-------------|---|--------------------|
| 06/06/2019 | D Day anniversary wreath laying at Centennial Memorial | Mayor |
| 06/06/2019 | Tatton Brewery Open Evening | Mayor |
| 07/06/2019 | Summer Drinks Party with High Sheriff of Cheshire | Deputy Mayor |
| 07/06/2019 | Pub in the Park VIP Night with Brand Events | Mayor |
| 08/06/2019 | Barnardo's Reward and Recognition Event | Mayor |
| 15/06/2019 | Street Party with residents of Lilac Avenue | Mayor |
| 16/06/2019 | Civic Sunday Parade and Service for Mayor of Bollington | Mayor |
| 16/06/2019 | Fundraising Car Wash with Knutsford Fire Station | Mayor |
| 16/06/2019 | Middlewich FAB 2019 Festival Praise Church Service | Deputy Mayor |
| 19/06/2019 | Royal Cheshire County Show with Manchester Airport Group | Mayor |
| 20/06/2019 | Folk at the Theatre – Knutsford Music Festival | Mayor |
| 21/06/2019 | Knutsford Primary Schools' Ball | Mayor |
| 22/06/2019 | Fine Lines at Market Hall – Knutsford Music Festival | Mayor |
| 22/06/2019 | Ben Tavill at Cotton St Yard – Knutsford Music Festival | Mayor |
| 22/06/2019 | Music on the Moor – Knutsford Music Festival | Mayor |
| 22/06/2019 | The Main Event at Vermillion Gallery – Knutsford Music Festival | Mayor |
| 22/06/2019 | Hiawatha's Wedding Feast Concert with Tatton Singers | Deputy Mayor |
| 23/06/2019 | Knutsford Civic Sunday Parade and Service | Mayor |
| 23/06/2019 | Old School Get Together for Old School Project | Cllr Forbes |
| 26/06/2019 | Launch Event for local businesses for Real5 Networking | Mayor |
| 27/06/2019 | The Old Sessions House soft opening event | Mayor |
| 27/06/2019 | Art Fair for Cheshire East Hospice at Tatton Park | Mayor |
| 28/06/2019 | Open Day at Sunrise of Mobberley | Mayor |
| 28/06/2019 | Palm Oil Conservation Exhibition - Lower Peover Primary School | Mayor |
| 28/06/2019 | Twilight Bark Ball for dog charities at The Courthouse | Mayor |
| 03/07/2019 | Over 70's Coach Trip send off for Toft Taverners | Mayor |
| 06/07/2019 | Summer Fair attendance for Manor Park School | Mayor |
| 06/07/2019 | Party in the Park attendance for St Vincent's School | Mayor |
| 07/07/2019 | Civic Sunday for Alderley Edge Parish Council | Mayor |
| 07/07/2019 | Competition Prize Giving for Gymfinity Gymnastics | Mayor |
| 10/07/2019 | My World Graduation Ceremony for Manor Park School | Mayor |

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| 12/07/2019 | Summer Party for Abbeyfield Knutsford Society | Mayor |
| 18/07/2019 | Flowers in Wallwood Photo Shoot | Mayor |
| 19/07/2019 | Mayor's Fundraising BBQ at Council Offices | Mayor |
| 20/07/2019 | Open Day for Knutsford Fire Station | Mayor |
| 20/07/2019 | Unveiling and official opening of Brunner Mond Memorial Garden for Middlewich Town Council | Mayor |
| 20/07/2019 | Winsford Town Council Celebration of the life of Sir John Brunner | Deputy Mayor |
| 21/07/2019 | Civic Service for Mayor of Poynton | Mayor |
| 23/07/2019 | Floral Walk winning shop windows certificates presentation | Mayor |
| 26/07/2019 | Fundraising Quiz Night for Mayor of Poynton | Deputy Mayor |
| 08/08/2019 | The Cross Key's Reopening Local's Party | Mayor |
| 09/08/2019 | Summer Family BBQ for The Welcome | Mayor |
| 18/08/2019 | Mayor's Charity Sunday Lunch for Mayor of Macclesfield | Deputy Mayor |
| 22/08/2019 | Knutsford Medical Partnership Mtg with GP Surgeries | Deputy Mayor |
| 29/08/2019 | Opening of Picture Gallery for Sharston House | Deputy Mayor |
| 31/08/2019 | Family Fun Day for Sharston House | Deputy Mayor |
| 03/09/2019 | Knutsford Library reading challenge certificates presentation | Mayor |
| 03/09/2019 | 80th Anniversary of start of WWII at Centennial War Memorial | Mayor |
| 07/09/2019 | Garden Party with High Sheriff of Cheshire | Mayor |
| 08/09/2019 | Cheshire Cycling Sportive Ride to support Egerton School's Foundation | Mayor |